

L. S. AYRES & CO.

Indiana's Greatest Distributors of Dry Goods.



KNEE DEEP IN JUNE

June, the month of brides and roses—the month when nature's fairest gifts are spread with lavish hand. We've caught her spirit. Beauty is in the air—in the store. Spring's budding richness has burst into summer's bloom. Millinery of lighter, airier winsomeness bids you come; pretty swisses and dimities extend new charms of persuasion; dainty summer frocks for maid and matron invite your scrutiny; Good Taste and Fashion join hands in making our welcome a pleasant and paying one for you.

Bathing Suits

Visions of Ocean Grove and Atlantic City are aroused by these newly opened cases of bathing suits. The shimmer of fine brilliantine, with its embellishments of braid and anchor, is proof evident that none needs to embark on her summer outing without a thoroughly elegant and fashionable garment to brave the breakers.

Blue, Brown and Black Bathing Suits of Mohair Brilliantine, \$4.95 to \$15.00. Flannel Suits, nicely braided, at upward from \$4.50.

"One Only"

The conjuring power of "one only" together with the tempting prices of these few pieces of rare furniture should find us purchasers before Monday is many hours old.

One Oriental Swing, was \$36.50, now \$18.75.

One hand-carved, three-fold Oriental Screen, reduced from \$34.50 to \$25.00.

One Antique Sofa, 7 feet 6 inches long, of solid mahogany, serpentine front \$65.00.

This piece is over a hundred years old and has just been refinished and upholstered.

One Smoking Table, of inlaid pearl is reduced from \$24.75 to \$18.50.

One Tea Table, Pyro decorated in colors, instead of \$22.50, \$17.50.

Bed Spreads

Reduced

One hundred and fifteen pink and blue ones and two cases of white Marcellines. The reductions in price are most tempting.

Seventy-one Fringed Spreads of Patent Satin, largest size—two colors only—pink or blue, the regular \$3.50 quality; special price, \$2.98.

Forty-four of a smaller size, for single brass or iron beds, \$2 kind, same two colors; special price, \$1.59.

One case of White Marcellines, Fringed Spreads, usually \$3.50, are repriced, \$2.95.

A case of the hemmed Marcellines, largest \$2.75 size, each, \$2.15.

Cottons

All imported Madras and Scotch Ginghams have been lowered in price. Assortments are still fairly comprehensive, and these cheaper prices should make lively selling for a few days.

Scotch Ginghams and Madras Cloths, that have been selling at 35c, 30c and 45c a yard, are now offered without reserve at.....20c.

One lot of 32-inch, 35c Ginghams in desirable colors and designs, a yard.....12 1/2c.

Colored Moresen Skirt Linings, a fine quality, a yard.....5c.

Remnants of Percalines, Sheetings and Muslins at decidedly cheap prices—over two hundred short lengths.

Dress Skirts

Of Black Taffeta

Firmly established as the favorite dress skirt for the summer. We have them, both lined and unlined, newest styles.

\$15, \$20 and \$25.00.

Washable Skirts

Linen, pique, crash and duck have all been pressed into the service of doing duty as summer dress skirts. Many of the newer styles get a first showing here Monday.

Prices start at 98c and gradually rise through dollar and half-dollar steps to \$2.00.

Dimities

The popularity of dimities has spread until America and France are pushing Ireland for first place in the diversity and beauty of new styles. Our present showing embraces the best of all.

Irish Dimities, from the best makers in Belfast—over 200 distinct designs, at a yard.....25c.

Silk-striped Dimities, printed in pink, light blue, heliotrope or navy designs, a yard.....50c.

Plain color Silk Dimities, in pink, white, light blue or black, a yard.....50c.

American printed Dimities, in the best designs of the best makers, at.....10c, 12 1/2c, 15c and 18c.

Garden Hats

A recent importation of French roses and field flowers gives us peculiar advantages in making these very pretty and very fashionable hats. You'll enjoy one, and the expense is quite moderate. See one or two of the recently completed models.

If you feel the need of a more dressy bit of headwear, our one-third-off price on all Trimmed Hats is an opportunity not to be lightly passed. There are some real gems in the east cases.

\$8 Hats.....\$6.46

\$10 Hats.....\$7.50

\$15 Hats.....\$10.00

\$18 Hats.....\$12.00

White Swiss

We are a trifle overstocked on this one kind of white dress goods—not enough to cause any great anxiety, but sufficient to tempt us to reduce prices 5c a yard below the ruling quotations. If you are a good judge come and compare.

32-inch White Swiss, 90c kind.....25c

32-inch White Swiss, 35c kind.....30c

32-inch White Swiss, 40c kind.....35c

32-inch White Swiss, 45c kind.....40c

32-inch White Swiss, 50c kind.....45c

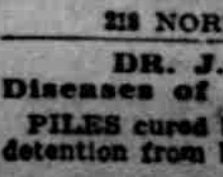
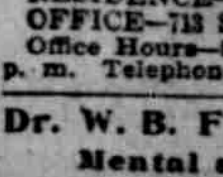
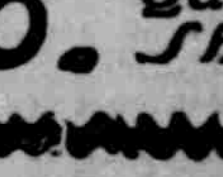
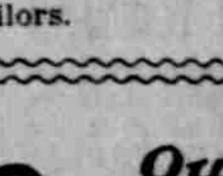
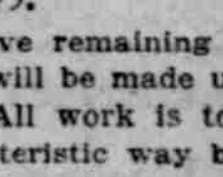
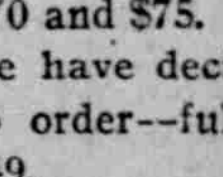
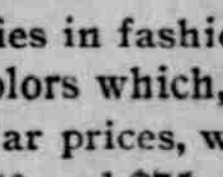
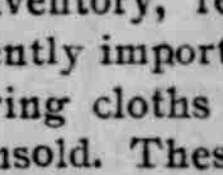
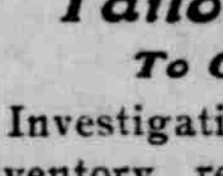
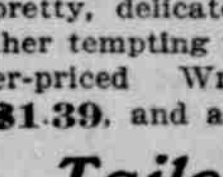
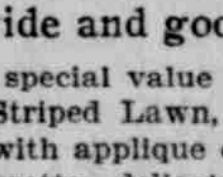
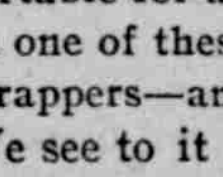
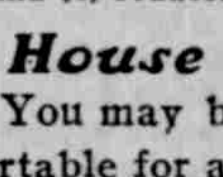
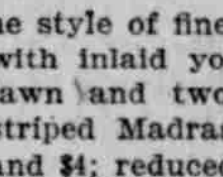
Madras

Waists

A Special

Two styles of silk-striped madras shirt waists, and one of Scotch gingham are to be sold at one-third under price.

One style of fine Gingham Waist, made with inlaid yoke and vest of tucked lawn and two other styles of silk-striped Madras, regularly \$3.50 and \$4; reduced now to.....\$2.49



ONCE CAPITAL OF SPAIN

TOLEDO, THE ANCIENT, ITS RELICS, RUINS AND TRADITIONS.

Sights of a City Which Was Founded Nearly Twenty Centuries Ago—Moors' Beneficent Reign.

Correspondence of the Indianapolis Journal.

TOLEDO, Spain, May 29.—You might wander for days amid these labyrinthine alleys, shut in by close, high walls, without gaining so good an idea of Toledo as may be obtained in half an hour from the highest point in the city. The ascent to the Zion of this Jerusalem is no more difficult than any other of its steep and stony streets. Passing through "the gate of the sun" to an open space immediately above the jutting escarpment, whose inaccessible sides justify the Gothic founders in their selection of a site, you command a view of all within the walls as well as of the encircling hills and the wild and melancholy Tagus winding for miles between jagged cliffs. Sloping down from your feet on every side are forts, and castles, and towers, all so weird, so uniformly old and hopelessly decayed that it is difficult to believe they can have anything to do with the nineteenth century. And indeed many of them have not. For example, those Cyclopean ruins close at hand were once King Wamba's palace, built in the year 674 and afterwards occupied by Roderick. From one of its windows he beheld the lovely daughter of Count Julian, who had been entrusted to his care, while she was bathing in the river, and then there became possessed with the fatal passion which led to the invasion of the Moors and the destruction of the Gothic empire.

That blackened heap of stones just beyond the bridge of Alcántara, known as "Galliana's Palace," is another monument of bygone centuries, around which cluster traditions which show that human nature has been much the same in all the ages. Princess Galliana was the beautiful daughter of King Gofar, who loved her beyond anything else in the world and built her a palace compared with which the glories of the "Arabian Nights" paled into insignificance. Hither endless lovers came a-wooing and annoyed the princess dreadfully—so the story goes. The most unwelcome of all the enamored ones was Bradamant, a gigantic Moorish chieftain of hideous visage, but incalculable wealth, who had an underground passage tunneled at great expense all the way to Toledo from his stronghold at Guadalajara, beyond the mountains, so that he might visit the princess every day.

LOVER'S GRIM TOKEN.

At length Charlemagne the Great came to assist King Gofar against Abderrahman, the Sultan of Cordova, and being lodged in this palace, he straightway fell in love with the beautiful Galliana. It happened just in time to furnish a climax to the story. Bradamant, grown bolder and more importunate, stole secretly through the tunnel one night, intending to convey the princess by force to his stronghold. He met Charlemagne instead, who had somehow got wind of his intentions. A duel in the dark ensued, in which the gigantic Moor was slain. Charlemagne cut off his head and presented it to the princess, who was so charmed with the gift that she at once accepted the hand of the giver, accompanied him to France and was triumphantly crowned his Queen.

The Spaniards of to-day incline to the belief that Galliana was either a myth, or a subordinate character whose whole Christian nor Moslem could resist. After her departure, it is said, the celebrated King Al-Mamun took possession of this palace and retired to it in his intervals of leisure, to study the heavens and prosecute scientific researches in company with the wise men of his court. To later Arabs it was known as "The Mansion of the Hours," because of a wonderful clepsydra, or water-clock, constructed in its garden by the astrologer, Az-Zarkal. This consisted of two tanks, placed at right angles to each other, and so contrived, by a complicated system of subterranean pipes and cisterns, that they accurately measured time, according to the phases of the moon. After Alfonso VI had appropriated the palace, an inquisitive Jew, wishing to discover the secret of the clepsydra's mechanism, obtained permission to examine its interior arrangement. He took the machinery apart, but was unable to put it together again; and thus in a few hours destroyed one of the greatest curiosities that human ingenuity had ever invented. The Persian wheel that raised the water and was propelled by a sluice, stood between the tanks and the main entrance to the palace; and less than fifty years ago its original parts were still in use for irrigating purposes.

A PALACE OF WONDERS.

Fragments of masonry and half-buried walls cropping up in all directions indicate that Galliana's palace must have been of far greater extent than the portion now standing would lead one to suppose. The gossiping Moorish chroniclers never weary of relating its wonders. They tell us that in King Gofar's day there was a lake in the center of the grounds, and in the middle of the lake an island, and in the heart of the island a summer house, constructed entirely of stained glass, covered with gold and jeweled inscriptions. Four fountains were set all around it, so arranged that the water could be turned on at will from inside, when their sprays played over and completely enveloped the house, cutting it off from the outer world until the master chose to press the button which stopped the flow of water. Here, cooled by the artificial cascade, whose drops refracted the rays of the sun and displayed the softened hues of the rainbow through its transparent roof, the monarch took his siesta, reclining upon damask cushions, fanned by female slaves—the very impersonation of sensual luxury. It is said to see that what is left of the "Mansion of the Hours" is now a stable, its elegant Moorish windows walled up, its arched ceiling fallen in—but their mosaics yet glow like jewels amid the filth that covers them. Soldiers have occupied it, Dutch, French, Portuguese and English, and for many years the noble reception hall served as a barracks kitchen. But though soot and grime have marred its graceful arabesques, they have not by any means destroyed their beauty.

ARCHITECTURAL PATCHWORK.

"On the very crown of this height, near the edge of the escarpment, stands the now ruined Alcázar—the Alhambra of Toledo, the "Amalekita Kassabah"—which, since the days of the Moors, has done double duty as palace and fortress. Enlarged by Charles V. (about the year 1540), altered again and again and yet again by Philip II, Alonso VI and Alvarado de Luna, to say nothing of innumerable additions and

alleged improvements at later dates, it presents an odd conglomeration of architectural styles in which the original design is wholly lost. The once splendid "Palace of Caesar" has had as hard a fate as most of the crowned heads that have occupied it. Burned by the Dutch at the beginning of the last century, and again by the French at the beginning of this. It has since been degraded to an almshouse, a barracks and a stable. After the war of succession the good Cardinal Lorenzana, who devoted his whole life and income to charitable works, repaired the Alcázar, converted it into a casa de caridad and filled it with paupers, whom he employed at silk weaving. When Soult's army invaded Toledo they ejected the paupers, confiscated the funds of the institution and stabled their horses in the former house of Kings; and when compelled to evacuate the city they set fire to it as a parting legacy. Then it lay waste for many years, until at length the rubbish was cleared away and at enormous cost the building was converted into a military academy designed to stand forever as the West Point of Spain, in which a thousand cadets might be always in training to officer the Spanish army. But the gods, or the ghosts of the Moorish builders, seem to have harbored special spite against the old palace, and again it was gutted by fire, leaving little but the bare walls and the four corner towers; and now Spain is too poor to rebuild it. In the rooms overlooking the Tagus the notorious widow of Philip IV was imprisoned during the minority of Charles II. As every reader of Spanish history knows, she was first the tool of the low adventurer, Nitard, and afterwards of an equally despicable lover, Valenzuela. Her mode of life has been graphically described by Madame d'Aulay in a little book which cannot be recommended as family reading.

ROMAN RUINS LEFT.

From the Alcázar you move with slow steps, for the view is too entrancing to be passed in haste. Perhaps you sit upon a stone, fallen from the walls of some mediæval home, and feast your eyes upon the prospect. Two thousand feet below, on the banks of the yellow Tagus, stood the earliest Roman city. Even from this elevation you can plainly trace the outlines of its ancient amphitheater. If the gladiators, who fought in it, were suddenly resurrected and wished to prepare for combat, they would not have far to go for weapons, for only a few rods away stands the arsenal where the famous Toledo blades were made. Time was when this hilltop was completely covered with palaces and convents, all of which have disappeared, or are fallen in melancholy heaps of debris. As if in mockery of departed greatness, the only building of large proportions that is now fully occupied is a lunatic asylum, whose inmates, screaming from their barred windows, might be infuriated spectators of once proud Toledans, bawling what is gone forever.

Not far from the Alcázar, a little way down the eastern slope of the hill and close to the ramparts, are two curious synagogues, one erected about the year 1050, and the other three centuries later. They belong to the golden days of the Jews in Toledo, and are of the greatest interest as having been built during the domination of the Moors, under whose tolerant rule the Hebrews enjoyed perfect freedom and liberty of conscience. They have, of course, lost their original names, and, as rechristened, are called, respectively, El Transito and Santa Maria Blanca.

TWO JEWISH SANCTUARIES.

Both buildings are so much like mosques in appearance that it is presumed they were built by Moorish workmen, who were acquainted with but one style of architecture. Santa Maria Blanca ("White Saint Mary"), stands back in a little court and outside its door are two small cisterns, which afforded water for purification before entering the house of God. Its interior is divided into a number of imposing naves by sweeping horse-shoe arches, resembling those of the Mosque of Cordova; but it is a true Jewish sanctuary, being celled with cedars of Lebanon, and the ground on which it stands was covered with the sacred dust of Palestine. El Transito is much more magnificent. It was built and presented to his countrymen by Samuel Levi, the wealthy merchant Jew who became the treasurer of Pedro the Cruel, and after years of faithful service to his royal master, was tortured and put to death so that the wicked king could enjoy his possessions. The walls of El Transito, covered with appropriate Hebrew inscriptions, quotations from the Scriptures and the Talmud, are decorated with arabesque patterns, honey-comb cornice and engraved tiles, like the windows at the Giralda at Seville. The superb ceiling, of Lebanon cedar, carved and painted and curiously inlaid ivory, is supported by coupled shafts of colored marbles. Beneath the arcade a broad band surrounded with exquisitely carved foliage contains the arms of Leon and Castile, and is edged with the eighty-fourth Psalm in Hebrew characters. Opposite the Holy of Holies is the gallery for women, with its gilded lattices, behind which they were concealed from the view of male worshippers according to the universal custom of the east. The two pulpits of the rabbi are mere silts in the walls, twenty feet from the floor and entirely destitute of ornamentation. In 1494 Isabel gave El Transito to the Catholic Order of Calatrava; then the Holy of Holies was converted into an archive and the gallery of the Jewesses became a dwelling for the guardian of the church. The exteriors of both these old synagogues are very dilapidated and have suffered from so many coatings of whitewash that the colors and many of the stucco designs have been quite obliterated. All around are narrow streets, to this day inhabited by none but Israelites. Their houses are so small and so densely populated that they look more like rat holes than human habitations, but are said to be cleaner than anywhere else in Spain. If that be true, may heaven save us from sight and smell of the dirtiest!

PERSECUTION OF THE JEWS.

The history of the Jews in Toledo is peculiarly harrowing. After living in prosperity and perfect security under the beneficent reign of the Moors their tribulations began when Christians took the city. First they were taxed—thirty pieces of silver per capita, the same being the wages of Judas Iscariot, the betrayer, without whose fore-ordained offices, according to the Bible story, it would really seem as if the plan of salvation must have fallen through. In 1357 the Jewish market in Toledo was suppressed. A few years later their synagogues were taken from them. In 1390 the followers of the meek and merciful Jesus, plotting the further oppression and robbery of the Jews, circulated a false story to the effect that the rabbi had stolen and crucified a boy named Juan Pasamonte in order to preserve his heart in a hostia as a charm against the inquisition. The absurd tale is commemorated in a fresco near the beautiful gate called "El

(CONTINUED ON FOURTEENTH PAGE.)

RULING SPIRIT OF CHINA

THE EMPRESS DOWAGER TSI AN AND HER REMARKABLE CAREER.

Sold in Childhood Because of Her Father's Poverty, She Achieved Riches and World-Wide Fame.

Margherita Arlina Hamm, in the Independent.

The present situation in Peking calls attention to the master mind which has brought about these events, the Empress Dowager Tsi An. Many romances have been written about this remarkable woman, but none is as extraordinary as the truth. A few years ago when a resident of China the writer met a Chinese scholar who, unlike most of his class, was well educated according to our western standards. Mandarin Tsin, for such was his name, was a great admirer of the Empress dowager and was acquainted with both her original and adopted families.

According to his statement her father was a Manchurian noble who held a lucrative post in Peking, but lost it through no fault of his own at Pao-chau, where the same fate and drifted to Canton, where in 1838 he found himself without employment, money or credit and with a wife, son and daughter to support. Rather than starve he sold his daughter to a rich merchant who had bought what may be called a "mandarinship."

The girl was strong, healthy and very comely from both the Manchurian and Mongolian point of view. The two races have different ideals of female loveliness, the Mongolian favoring plumpness and medium size, the Manchurian strength and stature. As she was of Manchurian blood her feet were not bound, and after being sold her social position as a "pocket daughter" or family slave prevented her undergoing the cruel operation of foot binding. Her "pocket parents," to use the Chinese phrase, were kind and generous. She was ambitious and highly talented and seemed to have a vague idea of her future beauty. She learned to read and write before she was eight years of age and evinced an aptitude for study. She was also not confined within the walls of the yamen, or family establishment, but went about with the other slaves and saw all the sights of the city.

As she grew older she was entrusted with the marketing of the family, and while still a child manifested considerable business ability. In 1848 the Emperor Hien Fung issued the marriage proclamation prescribed by law, in which all eligible maidens of Manchurian descent, between the ages of fifteen and eighteen, were requested to present themselves at the Imperial palace in Peking, with a view to examination as imperial concubines or secondary wives. This is one of the greatest social and political events of China and usually brings thousands of applicants to the capital.

AN IMPERIAL FAVORITE.

Tsi An read the proclamation and immediately announced her desire to enter the list. Her "pocket parents" laughed at first, but she made so spirited an argument that they finally yielded. They first changed her legal status from a slave girl to an adopted daughter, and did all in their power to prepare her for the examination.

They gave her a handsome outfit and enough money to go to Peking. Tsi An, in the style becoming the rank of a Manchurian princess. The court authorities pronounced her a faultless specimen of womanhood; well brought up in ethics and possessing all the virtues needful to the sex; in the front rank in accomplishments; in intelligence the equal of the graduate of the first Imperial examination. The examinations over, to her delight, although, it is said, not to her surprise, she was among the great number of successful candidates. She was taken to the palace and there installed in one of the suites of rooms in the women's quarters. Here began her wonderful career of intrigue. She paid particular attention to the Empress, and at the same time conducted herself with such tact and discretion that her friends and few or no enemies among the hundreds of other women in the Imperial household. She was a time and a half indispensable to the Empress, and in this way was thrown into the company of the Emperor. Tsi An was a time and a half indispensable to the Empress, and in this way was thrown into the company of the Emperor. Tsi An was a time and a half indispensable to the Empress, and in this way was thrown into the company of the Emperor.

ALMOST EMPRESS.

This action was a master stroke of diplomacy. The title was an ancient one, but had fallen into abeyance; in fact, it was well nigh forgotten by the great lords of the Council. How she unearthed it was at the time and has ever since been a mystery to the scholars of the empire. Under the old law it was the highest honor and position a concubine could hold. It put her almost on a par with the Empress, whose legal title was the Empress of the East. From now on she rose until she became the real power behind the throne. Nevertheless, she never permitted her ambitions to thwart the Empress, who was her senior as well as her legal superior. Hien Fung died in August, 1860. According to some reports the cause was a broken heart on account of the great Tsi An rebellion; according to others he died from poisoning. He was succeeded by Tsi An's son, who went to the throne under the name of Tung Ching. The real governing was done by a regency consisting of the two empresses and Prince Kung, the boy's uncle. The new government displayed far greater ability than its predecessor. It attacked the rebels with great vigor, engaged foreign officers, and won the war. The credit of this work has been divided between Tsi An and Prince Kung, but it undoubtedly belongs to the former.

MYSTERIOUS DEATHS.

In 1874 Tung Ching, then nineteen years of age, began to display some independence. There were many intrigues at the Imperial palace, and the great men of the state were appointed and dismissed, promoted and degraded, in a manner which showed that a tremendous struggle for mastery was going on. Things looked very dark when the emperor fell sick in a mysterious manner and died shortly afterward, in January, 1875. He left a wife who was about to be a second mother. Soon after her husband's death she also fell sick and died. Her death was ascribed to a broken heart by some and to poison by others. There being no legal issue the succession now devolved upon the Manchurian nobles. There were several candidates, but the Emperor Kwang Su was a decided favorite. He was a little boy, a little over four, the son of a loyal Manchurian, was selected under the official name of Kwang Su, the old regency being continued at the same time.

The young Emperor took more kindly to the Empress of the East than to Tsi An. The attachment deepened, causing comment at Peking. It ended, of course, in the death of the Empress Dowager Tung Kung, in April, 1881. She also is said to have been the victim of poison. Since then Tsi An has been the master of China's destinies. The Emperor Kwang Su was a docile and loving child who allowed himself to be swayed by her strong nature. Some years ago, however, a rumor ran through the Middle Kingdom that Kwang Su was developing independence of spirit, and predictions were freely made that he would be deposed and die. One of the most of these predictions has already come true, while Tsi An has been the real monarch.

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